

Butler, Anna F. 1920

University of Michigan,  
Department of Latin

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
ANN ARBOR  
DEPARTMENT OF LATIN

Feb. 25, 1920.

American Numismatic Society,  
New York City.

Dear Sirs:-

The University has a small but fairly representative coin collection. Recently we have decided to look it over to see just what we have and try to get some idea of the value thereof. Can you tell me of any book that will give the market value of coins ancient and modern, the latter being representative of most of the countries of the world? If so could you let me have at the earliest possible date? It will be a very great accomodation if you can do this.

Very sincerely yours,

*Orma F. Buller*

Address 1109 Forest Ave.,  
Ann Arbor.

February 28, 1920

Miss O. F. Butler  
1109 Forest Avenue  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Madam:

In response to your letter of the 25th, I beg to advise that the only thing which in any sense approaches the need you describe in your letter is the J. W. Scott Standard Coin Catalogues, which I think you can procure from Mr. R. Kohler, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York City. These are far from being fully satisfactory, but they do have considerable value in enabling one to identify the coins. Condition and minute variations in the pieces so affect their market value that it is impossible to arrive at this from book descriptions.

I should be very glad to have information concerning the number of Greek pieces in your collection. It is possible we might be able to help you in that field, although I can promise nothing until I have further information.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary.

9

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
ANN ARBOR  
DEPARTMENT OF LATIN

March 1, 1920.

Mr. Sydney P. Noe,  
American Numismatic Society,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:-

I think that you misunderstood my question. I asked not for help in identification of the coins as that work is in the main done, there are a few worn pieces that need a little further work, but for help in finding a book which would give the market value. From a dealer's catalogue printed in 1893 I found the value at that time of some pieces, but as that was old it seemed possible that you might be able to refer me to something of the kind of later date. However it is now too late to do anything but use the information I have as far as it goes, so never mind. As to the Greek coins I do not understand what you mean by help, your letter was not worded very definitely.

Yours truly,

Orino J. Buller

March 3, 1920.

Miss Orma F. Butler,  
Department of Latin,  
University of Michigan,  
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dear Madam:-

In response to your letter of March 1st, I am sorry that it is impossible to be definite to the extent you desire. There is no book which will give you the information you desire, because the market values of coins is changing constantly. Some have appreciated three hundred per cent since the war. Furthermore the worn condition which you mention has a decided part in determining market values, and no book can take into account such wear.

What I meant by help in connection with the Greek pieces referred wholly to identification. Had the size of the collection been moderate, we might have felt willing to offer to attribute them, or such of them as you were unable to identify. As I misunderstood your query, this suggestion, of course, was not pertinent.

Yours truly,

Secretary.



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
ANN ARBOR  
DEPARTMENT OF LATIN

March 6, 1920:

Mr. Sydney P. Noe,

New York City.

Dear Mr. Noe:-

I want to thank you for your kind letter of the third. It had occurred to me that the war and the changes of government resulting therefrom must have an influence on the prices of coins, and I am glad to have that idea confirmed.

I realize of course that the worn condition of the piece would of course affect the price. What I had in mind when I wrote you first was something in the nature of a catalogue of which we have a copy. It was put out by some dealer in Philadelphia in 1892 and gave prices of different pieces in three columns "Fair, Good, Uncirculated." It covered United States, English, French and German money. I did not know enough about the market in coins, having spent all my time in the subject in using them as historical documents and in classifying them, to know whether this was a common thing or not. I realize now from your letters that my finding this catalogue was probably a mere chance. I have the book upstairs and will get it and add the dealer's name.

I started the work in season, but first the flu hit us just at examination season and what with holding examinations for those who were sick, and getting my own students up to the line when they were ill my time just went, and then they called in the report a month early. You can understand my predicament. But it is done.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
ANN ARBOR  
DEPARTMENT OF LATIN

I appreciate your kindness in offering to help in attributing the Greek coins and if I find any which do not live up to the descriptions sent with them by the donors I shall, if I may, ask your kind assistance. We are lucky in having most if not all of our Greek pieces from a gentleman who spent a great deal of time on the subject of numismatics and sent a title with each piece. As we have the British Museum Catalogues I have checked up a good many of them and found his descriptions accurate. Again thanking you, I am

Very sincerely yours,

*Orma F. Buller*

*This is the title*

*"Standard Money Manual  
and*

*Stamp Collector's Guide"*

*Published by W. E. Skinner  
325 Washington St.  
Boston, Mass.*